La Crosse FRO Accomplishment Highlights Report

Interjurisdictional Fisheries:

LaCrosse FRO assists on Fish Health Survey

08/15/2004

A major benefit of this project is that it could provide an advanced warning of a disease out break additionally it can be used as trend information on the health of the fishery. The catch information can also be used to show population trends by species.

Scott Yess

La Crosse FRO staff and volunteers assisted the La Crosse Fish Health Center with their Wild Fish Health Survey on the Upper Mississippi River. Pools three, four and seven were sampled using boat electrofishing as a collection technique. All fish over 100 mm were collected then examined for diseases and the general health of each fish. The Wild Fish Health Survey is a nation wide effort which is focused on many of the nation's major watersheds.

Interjurisdictional Fisheries:

LaCrosse FRO supports USGS

08/26/2004

The information generated from this study will provide resource managers with the data they need to better manage our rivers and streams and also provide an early detection for contaminants.

La Crosse FRO receives frequent requests for assistance from several partners on a wide variety of fishery issues. During the week of August 23rd personnel from LaCrosse FRO and Tim Yager (RO), assisted the Iowa City Office of the US Geological Survey on their National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program. This program was implemented in 1991 to support informational needs and decisions related to water-quality management and policy. The NAWQA Program is designed to answer questions concerning our nation's water resources. Information on water chemistry, physical characteristics, stream habitat, and aquatic life are

collected. This allows resource managers to make science based decisions on water quality issues. La Crosse FRO has been called on to provide their expertise on the fishery aspects of this project. Three sites along the Iowa River and one site on the Wapsipinicon River were electrofished to determine the fish community structure. All fish were identified to species and weighted and measured. This fishery information will be analyzed in combination with the other aspects of the study which will allow water resource managers to make informed decisions. The NAWQA Program has been active for over ten years and 42 of the original 51 study units will be reassessed for an additional ten years.

Scott Yess

Habitat Restoration and Conservation:

La Crosse Fishery Office Projects Highlighted at Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

08/26/2004

Three La Crosse Fishery Resources Office projects were highlighted in platform presentations made by fishery biologists Ann Runstrom and Mark Steingraeber at the 134th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society held August 22-26, 2004, at the Monona Terrace in Madison, Wis. Ms. Runstrom co-authored and presented an invited platform talk entitled 'Lake sturgeon on the Menominee Indian Reservation: an effort towards co-management and population restoration' during the Sturgeon Population and Rehabilitation Symposium held August 25. Mr. Steingraeber authored and presented an invited platform talk entitled 'Monitoring for Asian carp in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal' during the Bighead and Silver Carp Symposium held August 25. Mr. Steingraeber also co-authored and presented a contributed platform talk entitled 'Identification of blue catfish and channel catfish as hosts for glochidia of the endangered winged mapleleaf mussel' during the Fisheries Conservation Session. These presentations were well received by audiences of fisheries professionals from around the nation and the world.

Mark Steingraeber